



5 February 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Ford Rowan

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Around 6:15 p.m. last night I called Ford Rowan after talking with [redacted] regarding his morning news piece on the Today Show.

I told Rowan that I returned his call Tuesday night around 6:30 and found it shocking that without further contact he ran a piece 13 hours later that not only was factually wrong but that clearly impugned my integrity as an attorney. I told him there was one position regarding covert activity and the legality of it but as Special Counsel to the Director of Central Intelligence I had been asked to render my opinion and testified before the House Select Committee; that the opinion I gave was consistent with the Office of General Counsel of the CIA that that the so-called secret study was something written by an outside contract attorney working with four law students. I told him that the study was not conducted under the auspices of the General Counsel or his office or by me and that it was not based on any materials within the Agency but rather upon open research.

Rowan blamed the failure to call me back on NBC. He added that he was in no way attempting to impugn my integrity. I pressed him on how he could possibly rely on a document without determining its authenticity, inferring that perhaps one of the law students gave him the document. He pleaded that he had not obtained it from a law student but from someone in the Intelligence Community.

The conversation while on occasion heated on my part ended on a neutral note with Rowan saying that he would try to unscramble these eggs on the morning of February 5 as he would be on the Today Show at 7:20 a.m.



Special Counsel to the Director

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